United Nations S/AC.40/2003/SM.1/5

Security Council

Distr.: General
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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

Thursday, 6 March 2003

Remarks of the Chairman at the closing session

1. The special meeting has covered a wide range of material of use to United Nations Member States and to international, regional and subregional organizations. The Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) will develop a plan of action encapsulating its own follow-up to the special meeting, and encourages all other organizations represented to do the same, with the aim of benefiting from interaction between all participants at the special meeting.

Session 1
Standards, codes and best practice

2. We shall all gain from greater sharing of information and mutual awareness of each other's activities, which requires a more coordinated approach. There are several ways to take this forward:

- CTC will develop its web site to include information on standards, codes and best practice, with links to other relevant sites, where appropriate. Information provided will be clear and succinct, with adequate guidance to help users of the web site to interpret the information. Organizations which develop standards/codes should keep CTC informed.
- Member States should be encouraged to comply with standards and codes relevant to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). Compliance with specific standards/codes remains voluntary. But guidance to help States comply, such as how to incorporate them into legislation, can be provided.
- Monitoring compliance with standards/codes must be closely related to the provision of assistance. Organizations should interact to ensure a consistent message on monitoring and to reduce the burden of reporting for Member States. CTC will help to coordinate in this area.
- Where possible, organizations, including CTC, should share information on assessments of Member States. Evaluations can form a valuable model for others, even if — for reasons of confidentiality — they are developed into generic messages from a wide range of assessments.

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- New standards and codes need to be consistent with existing ones and take into account human rights and other requirements. Sister organizations and CTC should be kept informed of developments in this area.

- Regional organizations are encouraged to set up systems to capture relevant information and disseminate it to their member States to help them implement standards and codes and benefit from best practice.

Session 2
Role of regional and subregional organizations in capacity-building

3. Regional organizations need to develop and define their roles. The special meeting initiated a constructive discussion on what to look for. In particular:

- Regional and subregional organizations should build counter-terrorism policies into their priorities for work on security and development. This will need new decisions at the political level. They may also wish to develop measures to help the victims of terrorism, with international assistance as appropriate.

- International, regional and subregional organizations should establish machinery to share information on best practice. The Organization of American States proposed conference for regional organizations will be important in helping them further to define their roles. CTC should be kept informed of links established by relevant organizations.

- Counter-terrorism should be an agenda point for future contacts between international, regional and subregional organizations. Programmes should be developed to help regional and subregional organizations with the practical tasks involved. Knowledge will come through conferences and other multilateral exchanges, by inviting representatives of other organizations to participate in relevant meetings, and from the information contained in the CTC summary of organizations' activities and experience (see S/AC.40/2003/SM.1/2). Regional and subregional organizations should pursue ways of establishing instruments for cooperation, training, contacts and technical advice.

- CTC will continue to develop its directory of contact points. Regional and subregional organizations should keep CTC informed of changes. CTC will discuss and develop a new matrix on regional and subregional organizations' activities, and needs to facilitate the flow of information on those matters.

Session 3
Role of international and regional organizations in assistance

4. The main goal of assistance programmes is to help Member States meet their obligations under resolution 1373 (2001).

- Capacity-building in counter-terrorism should ideally form part of a wider programme of capacity-building. CTC will help to provide the instruments for international, regional and subregional organizations to achieve such a programme. Assistance providers, whether international institutions or individual donors, should develop that approach within their systems.

- Information on assistance needs to be accessible easily and in one place. It should include guidance on what the standards, codes and best practice are, what they mean for States and what States need to do to implement them. The

CTC Directory of Counter-Terrorism Information and Sources of Assistance will be further developed with these aims in mind.

- Information packs will be developed to facilitate accession to the 12 international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism and other basic counter-terrorism standards.

- Better sharing of information on States' requirements should be organized. Regional and subregional organizations should identify gaps and shortcomings among their members and develop their own tools for making that information available to others. They should consult each other on the best ways to do this. CTC will develop its matrix of needs to be compatible with others, such as the World Bank, to avoid duplication.

- Assistance programmes need to be timely and focus on results. Training deserves a higher priority. The CTC matrix is designed to help potential assistance providers to identify and prioritize States' needs, develop programmes efficiently in awareness of the activities of others and avoid duplication. The special meeting will have generated ideas and contacts for taking matters forward urgently.

- Different organizations will have different priorities for assistance. They should decide and announce them. CTC and its experts can help with this, as can other international institutions.

Targets for 2003/2004

5. The overall target for all participants is to translate political will into action. In particular:

- A global information network should be recognizably in place by April 2004. Every international, regional and subregional organization, within its own specific mandate, should establish permanent mechanisms to facilitate the exchange of information and the setting up of technical and other programmes.

- Each organization therefore needs to develop its own action plan on counter-terrorism within the new global framework, which should include work to enable Member States to implement resolution 1373 (2001).

- Similarly, all Member States should develop and publish their own action plans, with three principal themes: implementation of resolution 1373 (2001); contribution to the global information network; and identification and delivery of assistance needs.

- Maximum transparency will benefit all participants. The provision of information should use electronic means, wherever possible.

- In the area of assistance, every reasonable request for assistance should be met. CTC will act as catalyst for this. The focus, for donors and requirers alike, should be on delivery and operational results.

- CTC will prepare its own outcome pack to develop the detailed messages of the special meeting.

- CTC will initiate action to respond to paragraph 4 of resolution 1373 (2001) on the relationship between terrorism and other forms of international organized crime and the threat of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism
Thursday, 6 March 2003

Special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee with international, regional and subregional organizations

Counter-Terrorism Committee Follow-up Action Plan

Formalizing contacts with international, regional and subregional organizations

1. The Counter-Terrorism Committee will seek to formalize and deepen its contacts with the relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, listed in the annex to this note.

Improving the flow of information

2. The Counter-Terrorism Committee will:

(a) Deepen the exchange of information on the matters covered by resolution 1373 (2001), with and among relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and States;

(b) Further develop its web site, a key communication tool;

(c) Further develop its Directory of Contact Points, to include the details of individuals/offices in all States, international, regional and subregional organizations;

(d) Pursue and promote other initiatives aimed at improving the flow of information, including those outlined below.

International best practices, codes and standards

3. The Counter-Terrorism Committee will:

(a) Make information easily available on international best practices, codes and standards relevant to the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001), and encourage the continuing exchange of information between all relevant bodies on such matters;

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(b) Bear in mind international best practices, codes and standards in the field of counter-terrorism relevant to the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001);

(c) Facilitate the exchange of information on States' implementation of international best practices, codes and standards relevant to the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001).

4. The Counter-Terrorism Committee will undertake the following action in this regard:

(a) The Committee will, by 31 May 2003, create on its web site an "International Best Practices, Codes and Standards" section, and invite international, regional and subregional organizations to submit relevant information and/or links;

(b) The Committee will encourage all international, regional and subregional organizations to promote the wider implementation of best practices, codes and standards within their purview, and develop guidance "implementation kits" and assistance programmes to help their member States and other interested States to implement such best practices, codes and standards. The Committee will encourage the development of information packs to facilitate accession to the 12 international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism;

(c) The Committee and its experts will bear in mind international best practices, codes and standards relevant to the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) when preparing and finalizing outgoing letters to States. In this regard, the Committee will include in outgoing letters as appropriate an invitation to States:

(i) To let the Committee know, as a matter of information, the details of any efforts to implement international best practices, codes and standards which are relevant to the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001);

(ii) To submit, on a voluntary basis, as part of their reporting to the Committee, any relevant reports or questionnaires submitted to an organization with which the Counter-Terrorism Committee has formal contacts and which is involved in monitoring international codes and standards, and to share with the Committee the findings or conclusions reached by such organizations;

(d) The Committee will seek to further its transparent approach, improve the flow of information to other organizations and reduce the reporting burden on States, for instance by encouraging every State to allow the Counter-Terrorism Committee to include on its web site the Committee's outgoing letters to the State concerned;

(e) The Committee will encourage international, regional and subregional organizations to share information on monitoring. The Committee will, through its experts, by 31 May 2003, contact every organization involved in monitoring international best practices, codes and standards to explore avenues of cooperation and information exchange;

(f) The Committee will remain aware of the interaction between its activities and human rights concerns, and of the need for respect for the rule of law and human rights obligations.

The role of regional and subregional organizations in the field of counter-terrorism

5. The Counter-Terrorism Committee will:

(a) Maintain a directory of contact points to facilitate international cooperation on counter-terrorism matters, and encourage all regional and subregional organizations, as well as international organizations, to develop their own list of contact points to facilitate information flow within their region and with other regions and subregions;

(b) Improve the flow of information on the activities of regional and subregional organizations by creating a "Regional Action" section of the Counter-Terrorism Committee's web site;

(c) Encourage regional and subregional organizations to step up their action on counter-terrorism, consistent with their mandates, and develop and share action plans for 2003/2004.

6. The Counter-Terrorism Committee will take the following action in this regard:

(a) The Committee will maintain an up-to-date directory of contact points in all international, regional and subregional organizations that are a focal point within each organization on matters related to counter-terrorism;

(b) The Committee will, by 31 May 2003, create a "Regional Action" area of its web site to include information on the activities of regional and subregional organizations, and copies of any action plans developed. It will liaise with the Organization of American States on the conference it has proposed to host to help regional and subregional organizations to further define their roles;

(c) The Committee will encourage regional and subregional organizations to develop institutional machinery devoted to countering terrorism, including building counter-terrorism policies into their priorities for work on security and development, and procedures for capturing and disseminating to member States information on best practices, codes and standards;

(d) The Committee will encourage regional and subregional organizations to develop an awareness of their members' implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant international best practices, codes and standards and needs for further assistance, and communicate such information to the Committee and potential assistance providers.

Facilitating the provision of assistance

7. The Counter-Terrorism Committee will:

(a) Develop and maintain the Directory of Counter-Terrorism Information and Sources of Assistance to ensure that it is an up-to-date, comprehensive resource to assist States in improving their capacity against terrorism;

(b) Develop and maintain the Matrix of Needs to ensure that it includes comprehensive information on each State's assistance needs (if any) and indicates the relative priorities for each State's requests;

(c) Ensure that every reasonable assistance request is met during 2003/2004.

8. The Counter-Terrorism Committee will take the following action in this regard:

(a) Encourage assistance providers to incorporate in wider capacity-building assistance programmes a focus on building counter-terrorism capacity, to give training a higher priority, and to ensure that all programmes are timely and results-focused. The Committee will explore what further instruments are needed in this area;

(b) Encourage all States, international, regional and subregional organizations to submit regularly information to the Counter-Terrorism Committee's Directory of Counter-Terrorism Information and Sources of Assistance, an online one-stop shop for those looking for details of assistance programmes, self-help packages and guidance;

(c) The Committee, with advice from its group of experts, will maintain an updated, comprehensive prioritized Matrix of Needs and will:

(i) Circulate it to all international, regional and subregional organizations, and to States which request a copy, on the first day of each month;

(ii) Invite all such organizations and States to ensure that the Matrix remains up to date by submitting relevant new information to the Committee's expert team by the 15th of each month.

Annex

List of international, regional and subregional organizations with which the Counter-Terrorism Committee will deepen contacts

I. Intergovernmental organizations having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and/or maintaining permanent offices at Headquarters

African Union

African Development Bank

Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization

Asian Development Bank

Caribbean Community

Commonwealth Secretariat

Commonwealth of Independent States

- Anti-Terrorist Centre
- Executive Committee

Council of Europe

- Moneyval Committee

European Union

- Presidency of the European Union
- European Commission

Inter-American Development Bank

Inter-Parliamentary Union

Interpol

International Organization for Migration

International Organization of la Francophonie

League of Arab States

Organization of the Islamic Conference

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Organization of American States

- Inter-American Committee against Terrorism

Pacific Islands Forum

II. Other relevant organizations and bodies

Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation

Association of South-East Asian Nations

Bank of International Settlements

– Basel Committee on Banking Supervision

Caribbean Development Bank

Caribbean Financial Action Task Force

Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money-Laundering Group

Economic Community of West African States

Egmont Group

Europol

Financial Action Task Force

Financial Action Task Force for South America

Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Republic of Moldova Group

Gulf Cooperation Council

International Association of Insurance Supervisors

International Bar Association

International Peace Academy

International Organization of Securities Commissions

Islamic Development Bank

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Offshore Group of Banking Supervisors

Shanghai Cooperation Organization

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation

Southern African Development Community

South-East European Cooperation Process

South European Cooperation Initiative

World Customs Organization

III. Specialized agencies/United Nations funds and programmes

International Atomic Energy Agency

International Civil Aviation Organization

International Monetary Fund

International Maritime Organization

Office on Drugs and Crime

– Global Programme on Terrorism

– Global Programme against Money Laundering

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

International Telecommunication Union

Universal Postal Union

United Nations Development Programme

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

United Nations Children's Fund

World Bank

World Health Organization

IV. Secretariat departments

Department for Disarmament Affairs

Department of Public Information

Department of Political Affairs

Office of Legal Affairs

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Security Council

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3 April 2003

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African Development Bank

Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization

Asian Development Bank

Caribbean Community

Commonwealth Secretariat

Commonwealth of Independent States

- Anti-Terrorist Centre
- Executive Committee

Council of Europe

- Moneyval Committee

European Union

- Presidency of the European Union
- European Commission

Inter-American Development Bank

Inter-Parliamentary Union

Interpol

International Organization for Migration

International Organization of la Francophonie

League of Arab States

Organization of the Islamic Conference

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

Organization of American States

- Inter-American Committee against Terrorism

Pacific Islands Forum

II. Other relevant organizations and bodies

Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation

Association of South-East Asian Nations

Bank of International Settlements

- Basel Committee on Banking Supervision

Caribbean Development Bank

Caribbean Financial Action Task Force

Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money-Laundering Group

Economic Community of West African States

Egmont Group

Europol

Financial Action Task Force

Financial Action Task Force for South America

Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Republic of Moldova Group

Gulf Cooperation Council

International Association of Insurance Supervisors

International Bar Association

International Peace Academy

International Organization of Securities Commissions

Islamic Development Bank

North Atlantic Treaty Organization

Offshore Group of Banking Supervisors

Shanghai Cooperation Organization

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation

Southern African Development Community

South-East European Cooperation Process

South European Cooperation Initiative

World Customs Organization

III. Specialized agencies/United Nations funds and programmes

International Atomic Energy Agency

International Civil Aviation Organization

International Monetary Fund

International Maritime Organization

Office on Drugs and Crime

- Global Programme on Terrorism
- Global Programme against Money Laundering

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

International Telecommunication Union

Universal Postal Union

United Nations Development Programme

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

United Nations Children's Fund

World Bank

World Health Organization

IV. Secretariat departments

Department for Disarmament Affairs

Department of Public Information

Department of Political Affairs

Office of Legal Affairs